

DETAILED REMARKS

In Final Office Action (FOA) mailed on 01/30/2006 examiner rejected all pending claims. In response, applicant cancels claims 9 - 23, and amends claim 1.

The FOA stated: "Claim 1 and 3-8, 11-12, 14-18, 20-21, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Luk et al, US. Pub. No. 2005/0030817 A1." In response, applicant reinserted in claim 1 the limitation of "at least two amplification stages", as it was in the originally filed claim 1. The primary sense amplifier (PSA) in Luk et al, US. Pub. No. 2005/0030817 A1 (Luk 30817) is shown in FIG. 2A. As FIG. 2A of Luk 30817 shows, their PSA is a standard one, indicating no sign of two amplification stages. In FIG. 2A of Luk 30817 the stage 210 which receives the input 130 is directly connected to the output MDQ 140. Also, in the description of Luk 30817 nowhere is a mention that the PSA would have at least two amplification stages. Consequently, applicant respectfully suggests that the PSA as expressed in the currently amended claim 1, is patentably distinguishable from the PSA of Luk 30817.

The FOA also cites, without any further discussion, Lin et al, US Pat. No. 5,587,945 (Lin). Applicant sees Lin's teaching directed to the cell of a SRAM memory. Applicant fails to see how this patent can have bearing on the present invention.

Applicant would also like to reiterate here one argument from the 01/11/2006 Response to the 10/14/2005 Office Action (10/14 OA). In The 10/14 OA examiner cited Wang et al, US Pat. No. 6,014,338 (Wang) as showing two amplification stages in a PSA. Applicant quotes from the 01/11/2006 response: "Wang (6,014,338) deals with register files and not DRAM-s. Register files are Static Random Access Memory (SRAM), see for instance col. 1 line 8, and col 3 line 24. Due to the different kind of memory cell, the issues of write, and write-back are different for SRAM-s and DRAM-s. Applicant respectfully submits that it is not clear how Wang might be relevant as DRAM prior art." Furthermore, paraphrasing the 01/11/2006 Response, the PSA in Wang has a latch (30, 32) and a single pull down transistor 42 on the output. No sign of two amplification stages.

Based on the preceding discussion, applicant respectfully avers that amended claim 1, as presented in the current Response, is clearly, and unequivocally, distinguished from Luk 30817, and from all other cited prior art, and thus, it is not anticipated.

Claims 3 - 5 have been amended only in regard to differing dependency from their

Claims 3 - 5 have been amended only in regard to differing dependency from their original version.

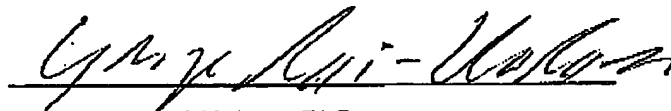
New dependent claim 24 has been added to more specifically identify the full scope and breadth of the invention. Support for new claim 24 is found all through the specification, but most specifically on lines 3 and 4 of page 10 in the specification of the application.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

Applicant respectfully submits that as expressed in this amendment the claims now contain only patentable subject matter.

Applicant further submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



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